

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BRUSSE 02672 01 OF 02 181842Z

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 ARA-06

MC-02 ACDA-07 AID-05 /093 W

-----181909Z 116697 /43

O 181717Z MAR 77

FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9356

INFO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY LOME

US MISSION USUN NEW YORK 1470

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 BRUSSELS 2672

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR PINR CG AO BE

SUBJECT: ZAIRIANS SPEAK UP IN BRUSSELS - BOTH PRO AND CON

REFS: (A) 76 STATE 268460 (NOTAL), (B) 76 BRUSSELS 10612 (NOTAL)

SUMMARY: ZAIRIAN AMBASSADOR GIVES PRESS CONFERENCE IN BRUSSELS CHARGING FOREIGN-BACKED AGGRESSION IN SHABA. ZAIRIAN OPPOSITION GOUPS ISSUE COMMUNIQUE, GIVES PRESS CONFERENCES, AND WALK INTO THE AMERICAN EMBASSY WITH ESSENTIALLY THE SAME MESSAGE: THIS IS THE BEGINNING OF THE OVERTHROW OF MOBUTU AND BLEGIANS AND AMERICANS SHOULD KEEP OUT. END SUMMARY.

1. IN PRESS CONFERENCE EVENING OF MARCH 17, ZAIRE'S AMBASSADOR TO
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BRUSSE 02672 01 OF 02 181842Z

BELGIUM, INONGA LOKONGO L'OME, CHARGED THAT ZAIRE HAD BEEN INVADED FROM ACROSS THE ANGOLAN BORDER BY MERCENARIES LED BY "THOSE WHO HELPED PUT MPLA IN POWER" (READ CUBANS) AND ARMED WITH SOPHISTICATED WEAPONS BY "ANOTHER POWER" (READ USSR). ATTACKING VIEW THAT FIGHTING WAS AN INTERNAL ZAIRIAN PROBLEM, HE REVIEWED HISTORY OF UNSUCCESSFUL ZAIRIAN EFFORTS TO ESTABLISH DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH ANGOLAN GOVERNMENT, THE FAILURE OF WHICH HE MAINTAINED SHOWED THAT

AGOSTINHO NETO WAS ALREADY PLANNING THE AGGRESSION AGAINST ITS NEIGHBOR. HE SAID THAT EX-KATANGA GENDARMES HAD HISTORY OF FIGHTING ON ALL SIDE S OF IDEOLOGICAL SPECTRUM - FOR KATANGA SUCCESSION, FOR PORTUGUESE COLONIALISTS, FOR MPLA - AND NOW HAD BEEN "CONVERTED TO COMMUNISM." HE MADE THE CHARGE THAT INVADERS WORE UNIFORMS OF THE ZAIRIAN ARMY AND, IN ANSWER TO A QUESTION, SAID INVADERS WERE LED BY "MULATTOES," INDICATING THAT THESE WERE CUBANS.

2. REFERRING BIEFLY TO ZAIRIAN STUDENT AND OPPOSITION GROUPS IN BRUSSELS WHO HAS COME FORWARD WITH PRESS CONFERENCES, STATEMENTS AND COMMUNIQUE, THE ZAIRIAN AMBASSADOR DUBBED THEM "FANTASISTS" AND "MINUTE GROUPS" DISTORING THE TRUTH AND USING THE DIALECTIC TO CREATE CONFUSION AND MANIPULATE BELGIAN PUBLIC OPINION. MENTIIONING SOME GROUPS BY NAME, HE SAID THE FRONT DE LIBERATION NATIONALE CONGO-OLAIS (FLNC), ALLEGED TO REPRESENT EX-KATANGA GENDARMES, WAS REALLY THE MOUTHPEICE OF ANGOLAN MINISTRY OF DEFENSE AND ITS "FOREIGN MANIPULATORS"; THE BRUSSELS-BASED PARTIE POPULAIRE AFRICAIN (FPA) HE DISMISSED AS AN ORGANIZATION BORN WITH ITS FIRST COMMUNIQUE; THE MOUVEMENT D'ACTION POUR LA RESURRECTION DU CONGO - MARC (WHICH PUBLISHES MISO GAA HERE) AND THE ETUDIANTS CONGOLAIS PROGRSSIF-ECP HE LUMPED TOGETHER AS "ETERNAL STUDENTS."

3. ZAIRIAN OPPOSITION GROUPS HAVE BEEN HOLDING PRESS CONFERENCES, MAKING STATEMENTS, ISSUING COMMUNIQUE, AND SENDING TELEGRAMS OVER THE LAST FEW DAYS WITH AMPLE PRESS COVERAGE IN BELGIUM. FOLLOWING ON THE HEELS OF FLNC COMMUNIQUE FROM PARIS, A CERTAIN COMITE ZAIRE AND A GROUP CALLING ITSELF ETUDIANTS CONGOLAIS PROGRESSIF-ECP HELD A PRESS CONFERENCE MARCH 15. CITING CORRUPTION AND ECONOMIC

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 BRUSSE 02672 01 OF 02 181842Z

MISMANAGEMENT OF MOBUTU RULE, SPOKESMAN SAID THAT MANY DISPARATE ZAIRIAN GROUPS HAD JOINED BANDS WITH THE FLNC TO OVERTHROW MOBUTO. THEY STATED THAT UPRISING WAS SPREADING THROUGHOUT ZAIRE, WAS NOT A LOCAL OR TRIBAL AFFAIR, AND THAT FLNC TROOPS WERE RECEIVING "ROUSING WELCOME" OF LOCAL POPULATION. THEY WARNED THAT MOBUTU WAS SPREADING "FALSE INFORMATION" ABOUT MERCENARIES, CUBAN TROOPS, AND AMERICAN MISSIONARIES AS HOSTAGES AND ATTEMPT TO "PROVOKE" AMERICAN INTERVENTION. COMITE, ACCORDING TO PRESS ACCOUNTS, HAD SENT TELEGRAM TO PRESIDENT CARTER CALLING MOBUTU REGIME MILITARY DICTATORSHIP OPPRESSING THE PEOPLE OF ZAIRE AND VILATING HUMAN RIGHTS."

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BRUSSE 00002 181904Z
ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00
INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 ARA-06
MC-02 ACDA-07 AID-05 /093 W
-----181910Z 117303 /46

O 181717Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9357
INFO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY LOME
US MISSION USUN NEW YORK 1471

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION2 OF 2 BRUSSELS 2672

4. THE BRUSSELS-BASED MOUVEMENT D'ACTION POUR LA RESURRECTION DU CONGO-MARC, THE ORGANIZATION WHICH PUBLISHES THE MONTHLY OPPOSITION PAPER NISO GAA, TOLD BELGIAN PRESS THAT NO FOREIGN TROOPS WHATSOEVER WERE INVOLVED IN OPPOSITION ACTIVITIES IN ZAIRE, THAT THIS WAS "PURELY CONGOLESE AFFAIRE" AND NO FOREIGN GOVERNMENT SHOULD SUPPORT MOBUTU BECAUSE THIS "COULD HAVE HEAVY AND EVEN IRREPARABLE CONSEQUENCES." PRESS REPORTS MARC SECRETARY GENERAL KANYONGA MOVATELI AS SAYING THAT HIS GROUP HAS MAINTAINED RELATIONS WITH FLNC AND FINDS IT "UNFORTUNATE" THAT FLNC HAS NOT RESPECTED SOME OF THE MARC-FLNC AGREEMENTS AND HAS "TO A CERTAIN EXTENT" PRESENTED MARC WITH A "FAIT ACCOMPLI" WITH ITS CURRENT "OPERATIONS IN THE AREA"; NEVERTHELESS, MARC SUPPORTS THE FLNC ACTION, HOPING IT WILL LEAD "TO THE LIBERATION OF THE ENTIRE NATION."

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BRUSSE 00002 181904Z

5. PREDICTABLY, CERTAIN ZAIRIANS RESIDING IN BELGIUM WHO OPPOSE MOBUTU CAME UNANNOUNCED INTO THE EMBASSY AND WERE RECEIVED BY OFFICER WHO FOLLOWS AFRICAN AFFAIRS. MARC SECRETARY GENERAL KANYONGA GAVE US ON MARCH 16 THE FOLLOWING VIEW OF ZAIRIAN OPPOSITION DEVELOPMENTS AND RELATIONSHIPS WHICH WE ARE UNABLE TO EVALUATE HERE:

MARC, WHICH IS AN ORGANIZATION OF NON-MARXIST, DEMOCRATIC "CIVILIANS" BOTH WITHIN ZAIRE AND IN EXILE, HAS FOR A LONG TIME HAD AN AFFILIATION WITH A MOVEMENT DES FORCES ARMEES-MFA, WHICH IS AN ORGANIZATION OF LIKE-MINDED MILITARY OFFICERS IN KINSHASA AND OTHER MAJOR CITIES IN ZAIRE. FEBRUARY 7 LETTER FROM FLNC PRESIDENT NATHANIAL MBUMBA FROM LUANDA TO KANYONGA IN BRUSSELS SIGNIFIED A "MARRIAGE OF CONVENIENCE" BETWEEN DEMOCRATIC (MARC) A) AND MARXIST (FLNC) ORGANIZATIONS WITH THE COMMON AIM OF OVERTHROWING MOBUTU. THE FLNC THEN JUMPED THE GUN AND INVADDED ZAIRE WITHOUT AGREED CONSULTATION BETWEEN GROUPS, BUT MARC AGREED (PARIS, MARCH 12) TO GO ALONG WITH FLNC INITIATIVE WITH MARC RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ALLIANCE'S PRESS, PROPAGANDA AND DIPLOMACY. THE GIZENGA-LED FODELICO - FORCES DEMOCRATIQUES POUR LA LIBERATION DE CONGO-KINSHASA - BASED IN EASTERN ZAIRE ALONG LAKE TANGANYIKA LINKED WITH LAURENT KABILA'S PARTIE DE LA REVOLUTION POPULAIRE-PRP, LEARNED OF PENDING FLNC INVASIONS OF ZAIRE AND FORMED A LOOSE ALLIANCE IN AGGOLA LAST MONTH OVERCOMING THAT WHICH ALWAYS KEPT THEM APART ALTHOUGH THEY WERE BOTH MARXISTS: THE INABILITY OF EITHER GIZENGA OR MBUMBA TO LET THE OTHER BECOME LEADER OF THE COMBINED MOVEMENTS. MARC WILL WORK WITH TWO MARXIST ELEMENTS OF THE ALLIANCE FOR THE COMMON AIM OF OVERTHROWING MOBUTU BUT KANYONGA WANTED THE UNITED STATES TO KNOW THAT THE DEMOCRATIC, ANTI-MARXIST MARC FEARED THE POWER OF THE TWO MARXIST ALLIES AND WOULD LOOK TO THE UNITED STATES FOR SUPPORT AFTER MOBUTU WAS OVERTHROWN.

COPIES OF MARC PAPERS LEFT WITH US BY KANYONGA,
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 BRUSSE 00002 181904Z

INCLUDING ABOVE FLNC-MARC AGREEMENTS AND FLNC STATUTES,
BEING POUCHED TO DEPARTMENT (AP/C BUCHANAN)
AND EMBASSY KINSHASA.

6. NZAMBA VALERE, BRUSSELS REPRESENTATIVE OF ANTOINE GIZENGA'S FODELICO (REFTELS), WALKED INTO THE EMBASSY MARCH 15 AND TOLD US THAT INVASIONS IN SHABA WAS THE BEGINNING OF A COORDINATED ACTION BY ALL GROUPS OPPOSED TO MOBUTU GOVERNMENT TO BRING HIM DOWN AND THAT OUTBREAKS COULD SOON BE EXPECTED ALL AROUND THE PERIPHERY OF ZAIRE. HE SAID THAT FODELICO SOUGHT FOR ZAIRE A "PLURALISTIC DEMOCRACY" WITH TWO POLITICAL PARTIES, SOCIALIST ON THE LEFT AND LIBERAL ON THE RIGHT ,
WITH THE "PARTICIPATION OF ALL CITIZENS" AND "FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION" AND COMPETITION BETWEEN PRIVATE ENTERPRISE AND STATE INDUSTRIES. HE SAID THAT WITH THE OUTBREAK OF HOSTILITIES FODELICO HAD DECIDED TO SEND TO PRESIDENT CARTER A LETTER DATED DECEMBER 13 SIGNED BY GIZENGA SETTING FORTH FODELICO'S AIMS AND PROGRAM (POUCHED TO DEPARTMENT AND EMBASSY KINSHASA).

7. LETTER TO AMBASSADOR FROM AN ANDRE KALOKA, MEMBER OF THE

CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE FLNC, MAKES POINT THAT THIS IS "NATIONAL
UPRISING OF ZAIRIAN PEOPLE" RATHER THAN SECESSION OF SHABA (POUCHED
TO DEPARTMENT AND EMBASSY KINSHASA).RENNER

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: GOVERNMENT OVERTHROW, INTERVENTION, INVASIONS, ALLEGATIONS, PRESS CONFERENCES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 18-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977BRUSSE02672
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770095-0982
Format: TEL
From: BRUSSELS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770347/aaaabojy.tel
Line Count: 227
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 5313eeb5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 5
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 STATE 268460, 76 BRUSSELS 10612
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3070737
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ZAIRIANS SPEAK UP IN BRUSSELS - BOTH PRO AND CON
TAGS: PFOR, PINR, CG, AO, BE, US, (INONGA LOKONGO L'OME), (MOBUTO SESE SEKO)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/5313eeb5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009